

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OPR-02 ST-01 /024 W

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R 130835Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5649

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

UNCLAS BANGKOK 11147

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ATRN, TH

SUBJ: ALMADEN WINES

FOR EA/EX

1. OUR EFFORTS TO DISPOSE OF ALMADEN WINES, ORIGINALLY CONSIGNED TO THE U.S. COMBINED RECREATION ASSOCIATION, SAIGON AND WHICH WAS DIVERTED TO BANGKOK HAVE NOT BEEN TO SUCCESSFUL. WE HAVE OFFERED THE SHIPMENT TO THE EMBASSIES IN RANGOON, NEW DELHI, KATHMANDU, DACCA, VIENTIANE AS WELL AS TO THE THAILAND LOCKER FUND. NONE OF THEM ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING THE SHIPMENT.

2. COLOMBO IS WILLING TO PURCHASE THE ENTIRE SHIPMENT OF THE WINES, LESS 25 CASES OF ALMADEN DOMAINE BRUT CHAMPAGNE, AND LESS 50 CASES OF ALMADEN COLD DUCK. PRICE TO BE PAID IS PRICE QUOTED IN NATIONAL DISTILLERS INVOICE NO. 8-39 DATE MAY 9, 1975, LESS A SPECIAL REDUCTION OF \$1.00 PER CASE THAT WAS GRANTED BY LEONARD C. JOHNSON, ANTIONAL DISTILLERS REPRESENTATIVE IN MANILA. NET COST TO COLOMBO FOR 135 CASES OF WINE WOULD COME TO \$2218.40. HOWEVER, IF COLOMBO REQUIRED TO PAY PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF OCEAN FREIGHT AND INSURANCE ON 135 CASES TO BANGKOK (AS SHOWN IN NATIONAL DISILLERS INVOICE 81-41 DATED APRIL 1, 1975) AND THEN ALSO PAY FOR REPACKING, OCEAN FREIGHT AND INSURANCE FROM BANGKOK TO COLOMBO, THIS WOULD MAKE PURCHASE OF WINES BY COLOMBO PROHIBITIVE AND THEY WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING SHIPMENT. SO THAT WE CAN DISPOSE OF THIS SHIPMENT WITHOUT DELAY AND ALSO TO AVOID PAYMENT OF COSTLY STORAGE CHARGES IF KEPT IN BANGKOK FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD, WE RECOMMEND IN THIS PARTICULAR ASSISTANCE, THAT

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NATIONAL DISTILLERS WAIVE OCEAN FREIGHT AND INSURANCE CHARGES ON

THE ENTIRE SHIPMENT. ON THESE TERMS, WE WOULD THEN TRY TO DISPOSE
OF BALANCE OF SHIPMENT - 75 CASES AMONG EMBASSY STAFF IN BANGKOK.

3. PLEASE ADVISE IF FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE TO NATIONAL DISTILLERS.
IF NOT, ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO RETURN SHIPMENT INTACT TO NATIONAL
DISTILLERS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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